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No. 46 of Series A
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O S I

C E N T R A L I N T E L L I G E N C E A G E N C Y

NUCLEAR ENERGY BRANCH

STATUS OF THE U.S.S.R. ATOMIC ENERGY PROJECT
An Extended Estimate for the
Joint Staff Plans Group of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff

24 August 1949

OSI/SR-10/49/1

WARNING: This document may not be reproduced without prior approval of the Director of Central Intelligence.

This report has been agreed upon by the members of the Joint Nuclear Energy Intelligence Committee which is composed of representatives of the Departments of State, Army, Navy, and Air Force, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

JCS review(s) completed.

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For the Director of Central Intelligence (ICAPS)

AGENCY: _____

DATE: _____

SUBJECT: Report OSI/SR-10/49/1, dated 24 August 1949.

Approved: _____

Approved with the following exceptions: _____

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SIGNED: _____

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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
Washington 25, D. C.

JDM-160
25 July 1949

Joint Intelligence Group

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Subject: Soviet Atomic Bomb Capabilities

Enclosures: a. Memo for Col. Joseph Halvorsen from the Acting Asst. Dir., OSI, CIA, 29 Jun 49
b. Status of the USSR Atomic Energy Project, 1 Jul 49, OSI/SR-10/49
c. Memo to the Asst. Dir., OSI, CIA, from Col. Joseph Halvorsen, 13 Jun 49
d. Memo to Col. Joseph Halvorsen from the Rainbow Team, JSPG, 10 Jun 49

1. On the basis of the general discussion at the IAC meeting of 22 July 1949, it is recommended that the Joint Nuclear Energy Intelligence Committee (JNEIC) be directed to revise the estimates in Enclosures a and b so as to amplify and combine them into a single current estimate of Soviet Atomic Bomb Capabilities. In order that the revised estimate may be of greatest use to the Joint Strategic Plans Committee and other agencies of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, it is considered that the table in paragraph 4 of Enclosure a should be expanded to include an estimate of the Earliest Probable Date* by which the Soviets can have a certain number of atomic bombs.

2. It is suggested that on completion the JNEIC draft estimate be presented to the IAC members for consideration and approval, and thereafter furnished to authorized recipients. From the Joint Staff Planners' viewpoint it would be desirable that the estimate be revised periodically, e.g., every six months.

3. In view of the revision of long range intelligence estimates to be undertaken by the Joint Intelligence Committee, it is hoped that an agreed IAC estimate on Soviet Atomic Bomb Capabilities may be available at an early date for inclusion in those estimates.

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W. H. TODD
Major General, USAF
Deputy Director,
Joint Intelligence Group
The Joint Staff

* Underlining for emphasis only

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

31 AUG 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR RESEARCH AND INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GENERAL STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, OFFICE OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, JOINT INTELLIGENCE GROUP, JOINT STAFF
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: Estimate of the Status of the U.S.S.R. Atomic Energy Project for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Maj. Gen. W. E. Todd, Deputy Director, JIG, JS, to the DCI, dated 25 July 1949, subject: Soviet Atomic Bomb Capabilities.

1. Attached hereto is a copy of the report OSI/SR-10/49/1, "Status of the U.S.S.R. Atomic Energy Project", which has been prepared by the Joint Nuclear Energy Intelligence Committee for the use of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and which has been agreed upon by the individual members of the Committee.

2. This report is submitted for your approval as a member of the IAC in order to comply with General Todd's request that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have an approved IAC estimate for their guidance. A voting slip is enclosed. In the event that the IAC members do not approve of this report as written, it is proposed to return it to the Joint Nuclear Energy Intelligence Committee for reconsideration with such comments as may be pertinent.

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3. Upon approval it is proposed to send a copy of this report to the National Security Council and to the Chairman of the Military Liaison Committee to the Atomic Energy Commission in addition to the distribution to each IAC member.

Signed - Desp 9/1/49

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Encls: 3
1. Copy of report.
2. Voting Slip
3. Copy of Gen. Todd's Memo (less enclosures)

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Executive (less enclosures)
Signer's Copy (w/enclosures) ✓
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Return to ICAPS "
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